

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 650)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 + 10x + 36 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(10) \pm \sqrt{(10)^2 - 4(1)(36)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(10) \pm \sqrt{100 - 144}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-10 \pm \sqrt{-44}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-10 \pm \sqrt{-4 \cdot 11}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-10 \pm 2\sqrt{11}i}{2}$$

$$x = -5 \pm \sqrt{11}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $2 - 8i$ and $-7 - 5i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} & (2 - 8i) \cdot (-7 - 5i) \\ & -14 - 10i + 56i + 40i^2 \\ & -14 - 10i + 56i - 40 \\ & -14 - 40 - 10i + 56i \\ & -54 + 46i \end{aligned}$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 + 2x^2 - 21x + 18$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x - 1)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & 2 & -21 & 18 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 & -18 \\ \hline & 1 & 3 & -18 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x - 1)(x^2 + 3x - 18)$$

$$f(x) = (x - 1)(x + 6)(x - 3)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = (x + 1)^2 \cdot (x - 3) \cdot (x - 8)^2$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

